to THE SUN. Published by the Sun-Printing and Publishing Manhatian, New York. President and Treasstreet; Secretary of the Association, akiln Bartlett, 5 Nassau street.

office. Effingham House, 1 Arundel ad. The dally and Sunday SUN are on on at Murray's Exchange, Trafalgar gs, i Northumberland avenue: Pall Mail an and Colonial Exchange, Cariton street. street, and Daw's Steamship Agency, 17 eet. Leicester Square.

nce, 32 Rue Louis le Grand. The dally day editions are on sale at Klosque 12, hear md Hotel: Klosque 77, Boulevard des Capner Place de l'Opéra, and Klosque 19, les Italiens, corner Rue Louis le Grand.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for wish to have rejected articles returne must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

#### The Interested Witness.

A Means Committee in his recent monon the tariff on steel, a judge is from sitting in a case in the outony of a man giving evidence in down or cut off entirely. own behalf must be pondered careand accepted only with reserve discretion.

No influence could be more sobering d steadying in the deliberations of Ways and Means Committee about the effect upon the testimony of Mr. CARNEGIE himself of the motives which ate that indomitable altruist in his evolent interference in the present tel His long and universally apauded efforts in behalf of the principle live and let live, his incapacity for atty jealousy, his unrestrainable reg in the success of others, his freen from narrow, selfish and mean de-and intents, combine to establish mplete disinterestedness and cred-. !His nature and record as much his giorious contempt for mere facts gures are worth weighing when

is words are recalled.

Fortunately the character of Mr. ARNEGIE is not less well known to the the steel manufacturers of the counmittee on Ways and Means.

#### Unequal Fate.

of SAMUEL GOMPERS in January number of the American on to the facts. Nor is there any ter qualified than Mr. GOMPERS its leaders. Mr. Gompuns in anin" irredeemably bad and dancharacters to whom reference is in the last annual message of Pres-BOOSEVELT.

GOMPERS has only suffered the ho have associated themselves Mr. ROSEVELT in the promotion political and economic politics. heights of favor to the lowest depths propitious circumstance. The road has been travelled by a nus and notable body of citizens stomachs revolted or whose uses ended, and who in consequence perienced a most remarkable and

PERELL nine months, six months or Morrison. For our honored

#### Municipal Socialism.

re was an interesting discussion special meeting of the Civic Club aday evening concerning the city ht of New York and the means which practicably be adopted to check excessive growth of municipal ex-

Among the speakers was Mr. EDGAR LEVEY, who is distinguished for his expert knowledge in regard to the inances of the city. He attributed the ndue increase in the amount of money pended for governmental purposes New York to what he called "municial socialism." He deprecated the tency to impose so many burdens on municipality in respect of educahe child be said, "but enforce it igh the truancy courts. Then we ake it incumbent upon the city to see hat the child is in physical condition o receive the education." The effect has been to augment the amount which nust be contributed for purposes of bication by the taxpayers and so to en the expense of education to the pupil or his family.

Now of course all mankind are agreed relfare, and in this country, at least, that it is the duty of the State freely to educate the young to some extent. How far the process is to be carried doubts that we should teach reading, writing and ar sametic in the public schools. The propriety of going further and giving instruction in geography, general history and elementary

intelligent persons are convinced that these branches of learning should be pursued at the expense of the individual. and that it is inexpedient to impose the cost upon the taxpavers at large. Still more objectionable does it seem to them to care for the health of the children in the common schools at the public ...... see their physical condition shall be such as ALLY AND SUNDAY, Per Year ...... 8 es to enable them to pursue their studies 70 with profit.

It is not only in the direction of education, however, that the cost of municipal government is continually on the increase. In the establishment and maintenance of museums, public parks and ciation, William M. Laffan, 170 other grounds, and even playgrounds for children, we find the budget continually growing larger. These are all good things in themselves and extremely desirable, and it is perfectly right for the municipality to spend its money in this way if the people wish it to do so, provided the money can be obtained without imposing too onerous a burden upon the taxpayer. The municipality, so far as such questions are concerned, is exactly like an individual person. If he has money enough it is wise and well for him to spend some of it for luxuries; but if his means are limited he must cut his coat according to his cloth. It is in this spirit that we would advise the authorities who control the expen-As Mr. Carnegie told the House Ways diture of the city to be careful not to enlarge the outlay beyond the necessities of the case until there is a ful purse. Every item in the budget which of which he is interested, and the is not strictly necessary should be cut

#### Our Opportunity in England.

The Washington Post draws a picture of the Hon. WHITELAW REID. United States Ambassador to the Court he tariff on steel than a clear perception of St. James's, so vivid that it spurs our interest almost to ecstasy. We are conscious, in fact, of a certain remissness in not having heretofore given proper weight to his "intelligent and tactful championship of his country." Our attention, we fear, has been too much concentrated upon the modesty of his entourage and the repose of his official attitude. Now that we are reminded of it, and in terms so well recognized and admired his bashful but efficient conduct all the while. Have we not heard a thousand times

of "the ties that bind the two great English speaking nations," and have we not seen those ties cemented in innumerable banquet halls, with the turbot younger and more stalwart man. wmakers at Washington than it is to well out of the way, the mysterious enbrut imperial mantling every patriotic played a waiting game, or a patriotic cheek? Shame on us that we had form man who was forced into this present into this present. trées gone to their last home, and the gotten the stupendous difficulty of keep- attitude by the intrigues and treachery receive the studious care of the ing those affectionate bonds intact! of his chief, time alone will disclose. We love each other deeply-in the do- At present no authentic information on main of diplomacy-but insidious influ- the subject can be expected from Venezences are always at work to balk our uela. But so far as the United States outstretched arms. Only constant vigi- is concerned, the change in the Governlance and a steady flow of hospitality ment seems to be for the better, as the fonist, in which he expresses his can be relied upon to preserve the fond policy of Gomez has always been underinion of Theodore Roosevelt, is of rapport. These two devoted peoples, principally because of its close attracted by the knowledge of a common with other Governments and the develorigin, drawn together by converging opment of the country by foreign aspirations, and conscious of the power, capital. with authority on Mr. ROOSE- so joined in sweet cooperation, to lead es felations with organized labor the march of progress throughout the General Kuropatkin on the Far populated world: these two can be day was welcome at the White made to work kindly in double harness He was not then one of the by nothing less than an unbroken series of "sumptuous" entertainments and the sleepless maintenance of a glittering front.

Our attention having been called to the emergency by the Washington Post, at has overtaken and submerged we perceive at once that "if an Ambassador less gifted had represented this Government in London most of the good will prevailing between the two ter another they have fallen from peoples might have been dissipated." The corollary is obvious. The entente between England and the United States is indispensable. It can be preserved in only one way. Why hesitate?

## The South American Alps.

Whether the alpestrians, a jealous brotherhood, will hail Miss ANNIE S. light Compens rail at unkind PECK as the conqueror of Mount Huas-"Twelve menths in jail for me, oaran, and whether the geographers will accept her report of its height as of counties accomplice, Two Years matter; she should at least have credit is to say, during the greater part of his 24,000 feet, is in either case no great Staff connected with central Asia, that for a spirit of adventure and a persistence in exposing herself to glacial risks that are remarkable in a woman and ation between Russia and Great Britmight be liberally capitalized in the ain and an opponent of all laggressive case of a man

The truth is we know little that is definite about the altitudes of the South thusiastically of the friendly under-American alps, and the field is still less trodden than the Himalayas. Mr. E. A. FITZGERALD conjectured that Acon- that in the event of a rebellion against cagua in Chile was the monarch of the England in India the Russians should southern hemisphere, and he laid siege be on the side of the English. This is to it for seven months at great expense in truth a remarkable assertion, coming without attaining its utter pinnacle, a feat achieved, however, by Mr. STUART for a generation with Russia's Asiatic VINES of his party and MATTIAS ZUR- policy, who has been her Minister of War BRIGGEN, their Swiss guide. Mr. FITZ- and who was the Commander in Chief of GERALD, who was well equipped with her forces in Manchuria during 1904-05. measuring instruments, none of which is infallible, gives the height of Acon-"We not only offer education to cagua as 23,080 feet. As to the altitudes in South America he says in his for offensive as well as defensive pur-

account of the expedition: " Till last year (1898) there was some doubt es to which was the highest mountain of South America, but since Sir-Martin Conwar's triangulation of Illimani and Sorata or Illampu it is into Manchuria an army of more than a educational matters in New York admitted beyond question that Aconcagua over tops every other mountain there and indeed every mountain outside the great ranges of Asia. . . Tupungato rises above Chimborazo, Sorata, Illimani and Sajama; it is still doubtful as to whether it exceeds the height of Mercedarlo. If Prasis's height of the Mercedarlo viz., 22,315, is correct, this would be the second that education is essential to the public highest peak in America. In any case it is now forces free for use, which he implies certain that Aconcagua, Mercedario and Tupusgate are the three highest mountains of the Amer- of the assurances given the Czar by tean continent."

But are these deductions unassaila- tenance of tranquillity on the Polish at the expense of the community at ble by other alpestrians? In a letter frontier. General KUROPATKIN hopes, large is a serious question. No one to the London Chronicle in the fall of and believes himself to have good reason 1898 Sir Martin Conway declared the to hope, that Russia has now arrived height of Illimani, which he had just at such an understanding with the ascended, to be 22,500 feet. But he ac- European Powers that she will have an cepts Mr. FITZGERALD's estimate of opportunity in case a fresh attack Aconcagua, 23,080 feet. Now comes should be made upon her in the Far mee would hardly be questioned. Miss Annie S. Peck, fresh from her East to use all her military strength When we come, however, to such sub- triumph over Peruvian Huascaran, and in a fight with Japan and China. He docts as music and foreign languages. fixes its height at 24,000 feet. We under- also takes for granted that before such

which for most persons may be denomi- stand that Dr. FREDERICK A. COOK also nated the luxuries of education, we challenges Mr. FITZGRBALD's statement signally improved railway connection reach more debatable ground. Many that Aconcagua overtops every mountain outside the great ranges of Asia. European Russia. He holds, moreover, His American candidate is Mount Mc-Kinley. The rivals should be left to fight the altitudes out with whatever science and experience they can bring to the now, and she may be able to make good her claim from the readings of her mercurial barometer, hypsometer and aneroid. It was her rival, Mrs. FANNY BULLOCK WORKMAN, the Himalayan cerned exceptional weight attaches to alpestrian and undisputed conqueror of Lungma (22,568 feet), who said that one cannot be too careful to use every as correctly as possible." Science is

### The Change in Venezuela.

JUAN VICENTE GOMEZ, the acting President of Venezuela in General Cas-TRO's absence, has at last taken the step which he must have been long meditating and assumed charge of the Government in his own right. The determining cause was a plot to take his life in which partisans of President CASTRO were involved. Gomez in physique, temperament and character is the opposite of the man he has supplanted. More open in his methods, although not without foresight and caution, and an advocate of constitutional limitations, General Gomez is robust enough to govern practical enough to effect a compromise of the international troubles of the

Two years ago when Vice-President GOMEZ was called upon to assume the duties of the Executive in the absence of General Castro, who had resigned to southward aggrandizement and to conretire to the health resort of Victoria opponents of the President sounded GOMEZ in anticipation of the death of CASTRO. "The only thing that I can promise," General GOMEZ is reported to have said, "is that I shall follow the Constitution and the law." During all that delicate and trying period when he felt himself under the observation of the spies of CASTRO, whose power was then at its meridian, the Vice-President conducted himself with exemplary tact and circumspection. Whether he dechosen, we become conscious of having served the reputation for loyalty which he won cannot be known at this distance, but it is evident that General CASTRO concluded that he was a trustworthy substitute, or the President would not have departed for Europe, leaving affairs in the hands of the

Whether GOMEZ is merely an ambi stood to be one of harmonious relations

## Eastern Situation

The article on the Portsmouth treaty which General KUROPATKIN has contributed to the January number of McClure's Magazine deserves the attention which it is receiving. We have no intention of wasting time in discussing the question, now purely academic, whether our Government blundered in promoting that treaty, but we do consider of practical importance the Russian commander's views of the actual and prospective situation in the Far East.

General KUROPATKIN is convinced. he says, that the twentieth century will witness a terrible conflict in Asia between Christian and non-Christian peoples. He holds it imperatively necessary that in this conflict Russia should be the ally of Christian England against the non-Christian races of Asia. For that reason, he tells us, ever since he occupied a post on the Russian General convinced advocate of peaceful cooperplans on Russia's part in the direction of India. He therefore approves enstanding between those countries which recently has been reached. He insists from a man who has been conversant

To us General KUROPATKIN seems mistaken in his averment that Japan and China will soon become close allies poses, but we concede that his opinion is entitled to high respect. He himself is convinced that in a short time Japan and China will be in a position to throw million and a half trained soldiers, on whom may be imposed the task of wresting from Russia a considerable part of Siberia and reducing her to the rank of a second class Power. In such an event it obviously will be of the utmost moment to Russia to have all her armed was not the case in 1904-05, in spite Emperor WILLIAM touching the main-

an exigency arrives there will be a between Far Eastern Siberia and that the Siberian waterways should be prepared as rapidly as possible for the movement of heavy freight from west to east, and that the base of the Ruscontention. Miss PECK has the floor sian army should be pushed as far as possible from European Russia into

It will not be disputed that so far

as expert and local knowledge is con-

the judgment of General Kuropatkin. A striking proof of his sincerity is given available means to fix altitudes reached of a desire to secure an ice free port exacting, and mountain climbers are as entirely legitimate his country's desensitive and caustic as the literary size to acquire outlets from the Black

in the McClure's article by his disolaimer for Russia. Of course, he considers occans, yet he thinks that the desire tainty that an attempt to gratify it would involve Russia in conflict with a coalition consisting of England, Germany, Austria, Turkey, China and Japan. It is not the mere fact of Russia's movement toward this or that outlet that excites the apprehensions of these Powers, but the consequences that would follow the success of the attempt. The possession of an outlet to the Mediterranean Sea would enable Russia to take decisive action in the Egyptian question, and an outlet on the Indian Ocean would constitute a permanent threat to India. The thing most likely without espionage and chicanery and of all, however, to frighten the manufacturing peoples of Europe and America would be Russia's entrance into competition with them for the world's

markets. It is wiser, therefore, in

KUROPATRIN'S opinion, for Russia to

abandon for the present all thought of

centrate her attention on the peril that menaces her from the Far East. Most of Mr. ROOSEVELT'S commission to inquire into the conditions of rural life with a view to its exaltation has been in Washington writing a report for which humanity yearns, not to say yammers. What tender soul does not rejoice in this gifted band of inquisitors and its shadowy mission? In the South they have tested the effect of peanuts on the alimentary tracts of the Georgia and Virginia masses estimated pot liquor in its relations to am bition and to adipose, calculated the action of snuff dipping in the hill country with reference to pianos and periodical literature, and weighed the comparative merits of corn pone and yellow legged chickens in the development of the finer sensibilities. Of course we do not expect them to enter into razorback hog meat They are hopelessly urban and uncon scious of the nobler aspects of the butious Spanish American politician who colic environment. We hope for the best, however, when it comes to 'possum and persimmons, catfish and cymblins sausage and syrup, and their respective influences upon the domestic life of the provinces. The field is practically unlimited. The degrees of cookery are nore numerous than the shades of autumn foliage, and the contents of the store rooms and the smokehouses vary with

> very mile one travels. In the North the labors of these elerators have been equally fruitful, no loubt; but has anything been done for those toffing masses, the commuters, those struggling, industrious, hopeful, but too often disappointed planters and gardeners?

## The mines of Colorado yielded in 1997 calendar year \$87,423,838 worth of gold, silver, copper-lead and zinc, a decrease of \$6,315,000 from the

Geological Survey. De		iited State
Gold, fine ounces Silver, fine ounces Copper, pounds	11,229,776 7,724,800	Value. \$20,826,19 7,411,65 1,544,91
Zinc, pounds	\$2,788,326 s in values is	

per, \$400,600; lead, \$1,400,000, and zinc, \$2,200,000 that the long continued low metal prices during the first part of 1808 may have so retarded the minwill show a decreased output of all the metals with the exception of gold.

Four hundred and thirty six mines in Montana

in 1907 calendar year produced gold, silver copper, lead and zinc of the total value of \$55, 670,562, as against \$08,257,808 in 1906, a decrease of \$15,587,211, chiefly in copper. By reason of the copper decrease Montans yielded her preeminence as a copper producing State to Arizona. The year's production of copper was 220,186,792 ds, of the value of \$44,021,758, or more than metals. The gold output was worth \$3,286,212 and the silver \$6,149,619. Lead and sine brought

#### A Saying of Adolphus TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In "Curi osities of Law and Lawyers," by Croake James, published in 1888, is "The Lawyer's Pilgrim's

Judges in his time were much impressed with the ollowing table of degrees: The three degrees following table of degrees: The three degrees of comparison in a lawyer's progress are: getting on; getting on est (hopest). The Judges, he says, acknowledged there was much and truth in this jingle." Adolphus died many years before James's ook was published. However, this was one of NEW YORK, December 23.

## Careless Editing.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SON-Sir: In the issue of the Congressional Record of December 10 there is a surprising error, indicating that that ponder-ous publication is in need of a proofreader who is familiar with the official happenings of the Government in the last two years. In a list of the Justices of the Nupreme Court of the United States the name of Mr. Justice Frown is given. blie the name of Mr. Justice Moody is on Mr. Justice Frown retired from the beach morthan two years ago, Mr. Justice Moody becoming member of the court on December 17, 1906. BOSTON, December 22. J. B.

## Preterie.

From the London Chronicle if, as seems probable, Pretoria is to be the capi-tal of Federated South Africa, it may after all callze the expectations of its founders. realize the expectations of its founders, a thing which up to the present it has quite failed to do. Lahd out like most Boer settlements, on an ambitious scale, it was designed on lines which would have afforded ample accommodation to 100,000 inhabitants, but it has remained a small town. and in 1869 had little more than a tenth of that copulation. Pretoria, which takes its name from the great Boer, Pretorius, is well used to the function of a capital town, for from 1856 onward t was the seat of the Government of the lic, which in that year was removed

# Desolation of the Diamond.

From the Washington Star.

The wintry raindrons patter
Where the crowds were wont to cheer,
And the birds convene and chatter
In the grand stand bleak and drear;
The grass lies known and tangled
And the cricket's note is heard
Where or old the umpire wrangled
With the man who slid to third.

Oh, the ruined ancient city
in its mute and cold distress
Moves the soul to no such pity
ior its gloom and ioneliness:
Tis the old and mournful story
of the greatness that must fall
That we read, misst chastered g
Where they used to play basely

### ICE CLOSED BALTIC PORTS.

Most of the Baltic ports were closed fortnight earlier than usual this year, and the lumber ports north of Stockholm have been especially embarrassed. Why are the ports of the neighboring North Sea open all the year, while the Baltic ports, excepting two or three, are sealed up for several months unless ice breakers keep a channel open, as they do at the German ports of Lübeck and Stettin?

About 250 rivers, large and small. empty into the Baltic, so that nearly half of this inland sea, and especially the great gulfs of Bothnia and Finland, is practically fresh water. The rivers pour into the sea far more water than can be evaporated, and it is constantly moving out into the ocean through the three narrow channels around the Denmark Islands. If it were not for the heavier ocean water that strong distrust which in the case of the s constantly entering the Baltic beneatl the stratum of fresh water the sea would Sea and upon the Indian and Pacific be converted in less than a century into a purely fresh water lake. The surface should be renounced in view of the cer- fresh water of course freezes at a higher temperature than the ocean water of the North Sea, where the currents of the Atlantic sweep in unimpeded through wide channels Then there is practically no tidal in

fluence in the enclosed Baltic. Tides are not perceptible on most of the coasts, and where they can be observed the greatest tidal range is only about three and a half inches. But the North Sea shores have nearly the full benefit of the Atlantic tides, which prevent ice from forming

or break it up. Furthermore, the surface of the Baltic as the full effects of the freezing blasts from northern Asia coming over the low plains of Russia and Finland, but the North Sea is beyond the range of this that for generations they have had no such terrible winters as the seventeenth between Germany and Sweden over the ice, and Charles Augustus of Sweden fought a battle with Frederick III. of Denmark on the frozen see

#### SCHOOLS UNDER THE CHARTER. Will the Proposed Revision Place Them Under Political Control?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: the people of New York realize that in the proposals of the Charter Revision Commision is involved no less a danger than the placing of the public schools under political control? This, I believe, is a real and not a fancied danger.

The words of the Court of Appeals, quoted approvingly by Governor Hughes in his sidering this matter:

The settled policy of the State from an early date has been to divorce the business of public education from all other municipal interests of business. (Gunnison vs. Board of Education 176 N. Y.)

Governor Hughes himself added The course which experience approves is that ertain general principles of action should be aid down (by the Legislature) and that within

these principles freedom with reference to details with peculiar knowledge of local conditions. There are real dangers to pupils and teachers in the proposed revision of the educational chapter of the city charter. First, as to tenure of office. tood that teachers are not to be protected by civil service rules? That if the

charter protection were repealed the teacher of long and meritorious service may at the end of any year not be reengaged? That retention may be conditioned not on school service, but on political serviceableness? Would not the chief victim of such a condition be the child?

a condition be the child?
Second, as to salaries. Is it understood that the salary of one year will furnish no assurance regarding that of the ensuing year? That the salary of \$1,300 one year may be reduced the next year to \$1,000 or \$900? That this would be true even if the provision guarding tenure were retained, or even if teachers were put under civil service rules? In the case of Walters yes. City of New York (119 Appellate Division Reports, 464) decided in May, 1907, Judge Gaynor in his concurring opinion said: The said board [Estimate and Apportionment has the power to reduce as well as increase salaries to readjust the scale of salaries in any departmen on the recommendation of the head thereof, and

the courts have no right to hamper it in the exe

cise thereof.

Is it understood by parents and teachers that the repeal of the Davis law (carrying down with it of course, the mandatory three mills) signifies a relapse to the old conditions when tenure, salary and promotion depended absoulutely on the will of the machine boss, when the teacher who save "the right party" a liberal "rakeoff" on his salary was the favored one, and no parent could secure fair treatment of his child as against such "influence"?

E. S. SHUMWAY.

BROOKLIN, December 23.

## Highest Southern Mountains.

From the Galzeston News.
Texas leads the sister States in peaks and moun ains. Of altitudes in the South that have been easured 2,483, not including varying measured ents of the same places, are above 1,600 feet. Mount Mitchell, 6,711 feet; Tennessee, Mount Guyot, 6,636 feet; Virginia, Rogers Mountain, 5,719 feet; Georgia, Sitting Bull Mountain, 5,060 feet; West Virginia. Spruce Knob, 4,860 feet South Carolina, Rich Mountain, 3,569 feet; Mary land, Allegheny Heights, 3,187 feet; Arkansas Fourche Mountain and Magazine Mountain, each 2,800 feet; Alabama, Pulpit Rock, 2,118 feet Kentucky, Frazier Knob, 1,540 feet; Mississippi Holly Springs, 602 feet; Louislana, Arcadia, 369

## Solving a Cambridge Mystery.

A house was recently torn down in Cambridge which was once a hotel. In those days the police suspected that "wet" atuff was being sold there quite extensively. Whenever a raid was made not a drink could be found. One day when the men were well upon the work of demoli the building a Cambridge police officer who has been active in making those raids re telephone call from the contractor who had the a visit. The policeman went down and was mos-chagrined to think that he had never though of looking for it in such a simple hiding place large hiding place.

#### Chance for Everybody. From the Youth's Companion

There was little doubt in the minds of those who were invited to the wedding of Augustus Clay Johnson and Chice Matilda Baker as to the cority of the invitation. It was clearly printed; and read as follows:

"You are invited to attend the marriage of Mr. Augustus Clay Johnson and Miss Chice Matilda Baker at the home of the bride's mother. All

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir! This outide a cobbler's, not a hundred yards from the Free "Pedimental segumentes artistically filuminated and fubricated at infinitesimal remuner tion of five cents per operation." G. NOBLE. BOSTON. December 22.

who cannot come may send,"

Chile Con Carne. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Can any of your chef readers tell me how to prepare "chile

In the Century Magazine for January Profess Andrew F. West describes the Princeton life of Grever Cleveland. The reminiscences of Saint Gaudens are begun and extend to 1867. Potsdam is described enthusiastically, with many pictures by H. Herrmann; the relations between Poe and Mrs. Whitman are discussed; letters of a Virginia woman, wife of the American Minister, tell of the beginnings of Queen Victoria's reign, and Dr. John Muir pleads for the preservation of the Yosemite. Mrs. Alloe Hegan Rice's serial continues, so does Mr. E. T. Seton's animal tale, and there are five short stories.

#### PRINCIPLES OF UNIONISM. in Spité of Mistakes, It is Stronger Tu-da)

Than Ever Before. To THE EDITOR OF THE BUX-Sir: the criticism which my letters on trade unions have aroused the underlying motive has been one of personal antipathy. The opinions expressed have emanated solely from a feeling of animosity, narrowing the discussion to such an extent that little good has resulted. To me it appears unfortunate that our quondam frien prolific in their criticisms, should be reduced to such a chaotic state of mind that they advise the destruction of trade unions before giving the workingman any consideration. This dislike has been magnified to such proportions that the uninitiated would imagine that organized labor was

composed of ingrates unable to appreciate the philanthropy of the employers.

But bitter experience has developed a workingmen is justified. Has not every opposed most strenuously by their indus-trial and social superiors? Yet when these social reforms have been accomplished they have been found to be of benefit not alone to the men and women who fought and suffered for them but to the whole of society. The only consideration that labor wants is an appreciation of the fact that injustice and greed actuating as motives cannot solve any question. By organization alone can the recognition of labor's right be accomplished.

I do not condone the mistakes of labor, for they are well known to and reafized by me. Too often is labor with its vast interests dominated by the charlatan and dema gogue, finding it necessary to defend itself against their unscrupulous actions. they can commit with a free hand things they were never commissioned to do. A labor leader supported by a troop of sycophants can impose his will as though he were a despotic king. But with all its mistake bitterest of winter weather. The Baltic and failures trade unionism has a mission countries may be thankful, at least, that for generations they have had no organization the average toiler would be worse than a serf, for the employer who desired to do right would be influenced by century reported, when the whole Baltic those whose whole aim and ebject in life was frozen over, trade was carried on is the exploitation of their fellow man. When the employer and the workingman realize that respect for each other's rights i the solution, then and not till then will consideration become potential.

With all the distortion of their principles trade unions, as a whole, are stronger to-day than ever before. Unionism voices the hopes and aspirations of the toilers despite the fact that every influence, both legal and social, religious and political, has been arrayed against it. The courts have passed no end of opinions on it. The press ha ondemned it, the pulpit has denounced it, good men have mourned over it, and wise men have shaken their heads. stands to-day the same as ever, pointing as a beacon light to progress and happi-

DAVID MACKAY, President Central Association Building Trades. NEW YORK. December 23.

#### NATURALIZATION METHODS. Complaint Against These in Vegue at the Post Office Building.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Permit me to call your attention to the methods employed at the Naturalization Bureau in the Post Office building of the city of New York. My friend Dr. Nicola Barbato of 181 East 106th street, accompanied by me, called at said bureau, asked for and received an application blank, which the clerk directed him to fill out and return any morning at 9 o'clock.

The dector and myself called again at

the Bureau of Naturalization last Tuesday, December 15, to receive the certificate commonly called the "first paper." 110 A. M. More than a dozen applicants were waiting in line outside of the office to receive their papers. The clerk turned the doctor away, saying that he must come at 9 A. M. sharp. Consequently he resolved to be very punctual the next time, and requested me to accompany him again to the office on Monday, December 21. We arrived at 8:30 A. M. and had to wait for fully half an hour at the elevator entrance of the northeast corner of the building. Other applicants were also waiting. At just 9 A. M. permission was given to go up. Some of the group dashed up stairs, pushing and jostling one another; others crowded into the elevator which the man in charge started, remarking with a smile: "No use hurrying—no more than fifteen at a time." We did not well understand the meaning

started, remarking with a sinite. No use hurrying—no more than fitteen at a time." We did not well understand the meaning of the remark.

On reaching the fourth floor, where the Naturalization Office is, we saw all the applicants rush forward and get in line before the door in the large hall. The clerk soon came out and began turning away all the applicants in excess of the limited number (fifteen or twenty). He kept repeating to every one "nine o'clock—any merning." Dr. Barbato complained that he had already called three times, at the expense of his professional affairs, but the clerk said coolly: "I can't help it; you'll have to take a cfiance."

The chance is that an applicant has to call long before \$ A. M., get a fast hold of the elevator rail, and must be able to overpower brutally his neighbors when the time comes in order to get in line among the first fifteen or twenty. Dr. Barbato, being a gentleman, refused to take this chance, but succeeded in obtaining his certificate through the kindness of Commissioner Shields, while about thifty others coming after him, who had probably called a dozen times, were turned away.

I do not believe it fair that a constitutional right should be turned into a personal favor or a fist fighting chance. I do not believe that the public servants of the Government should be allowed to employmentods which show no regard whatever for the aliens applying for citizenship, and no consideration for the time they lose, which of course means a loss of employment. I do not believe that in order to become an American citizen it must be necessary to combine the physical qualities of Jeffries and Longboat. In the name of justice and for the welfare of the community I submit this statement, hoping that it will lead to a modification of the routine governing the naturalization of aliens.

## NEW YORK, December 22

Grand Simplicity. To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: In these days of careless and slovenly English it is refreshing to find writing like the following extract from A series of papers appearing monthly in one of our popular magazines. The simplicity of style is an example for young writers. Here we rind cogent reasoning united with a clarity of expression which should be a lesson to aspiring

young authors: it is well when considering the fugacity of th litusive to affiliate the supernal comprehensive-ness that resides in the unhatural caducity of prejudice. The tendency of evolutionary exegeam of circumiocution, the approximate effect of which is to circumstantiate a solemnity of env ronment that surrounds the inner consciousness. Now, in view of this theoretical prognesis of latent personality Imbuing all pay adumbrations we must not lose sight of the im-minent actuality evolved by the instinctive reflexion of vascular dynamics, whose relation to the stress of outwardly expressed emotions makes us pause in the accentance of immature conclu-

## NEW YORK, December 13.

From the Denver Republican I've got a dog I'm going to train
When Castro licks the Dutch:
That swampy land I mean to drain
When Castro licks the Dutch:
I'm going to plant that saved up seed
And buy that paint my lence doth need
And heaps of looks I'm going to read
When Castro licks the Dutch.

JOHN FERGUSON

ARTHUM CHAPMEN,

I'm going to pay eleven calls
When Castro licks the Futch:
I'll patch the paper on the walls
When Castro licks the Futch:
I'm going to mend that broken sleighI've put it off for many a day—
And—sh:—I'm going to write a play
When Castro licks the Dutch.

I'm going to turn a lot of leaves
When Castro licks the Dutch;
I'll harvest my full share of sheaves
When Castro licks the lutch;
I'm going to rise when larkiet sings;
And you can mark this down, by lings
I'm going to gut postponing things
When Castro licks the Dutch.

### MAKING TARIFF RATES.

The Supreme Court Seems to Hold That Congress Cannot Delegate Its Power. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Referring to the letter by "M." on tariff re-vision in this morning's SUN, I think it may Supreme Court has taken in the only case decided by that court involving the power decided by that court involving the power of Congress to delegate its authority to "lay and collect duties." That case is Field vs. Clark, 143 U. S., 640.

The opinion is long, but the effect of it is

that Congress positively cannot delegate legislative power. The only question is: What is legislative power? The court holds that the power delegated by the tariff act of 1890 in connection with the reciprocity policy was not a legislative power, because the act provided that sugar, molasses, coffee, tea and hides should be free of duty but if any country exporting such articles to the United States should impose duties reciprocally unequal upon products of the United States the President should suspend by preclamation the free list provisions for the articles mentioned and thereupon such articles should be dutiable at certain rates specified in the statute.

The court calls attention to the fact that the policy had been determined by Congress that the rates of duty to be imposed in a given contingency had been fixed in advance by Congress; that what the President was to do was to ascertain a fact, and upon his ascertaining the fact it became his duty

o issue the proclamation.

Does not this decision show clearly by implication that Congress cannot delegate a general power to fix rates of duty? Under the Constitution Congress itself is the "commission," the "permanent commission," if you will, to exercise this power and is there any reason to believe that any commission appointed by Congress or created by Congress and appointed by the Executive would be preferable in any way to Congress itself? Again, is it not essential in order to avoid deficits in the national Treasury or overtaxation that the powers of collection and expenditure should feside in the same body?

· HENRY J. WEBSTER. NEW YORK, December 23,

#### THE FROZEN HYDRANT. A Source of Delay in Dealing With Fires That Is a Grave Concern.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In reference to the delays in connection with failures of the high pressure water system every one with agree with THE SUN that they spect does a twenty minute failure of water differ from a twenty minute failure that might occur and does occur every winter

differ from a twenty minute failure that might occur and does occur every winter from another cause? I refer to the freezing of fire hydrants.

We have a tremendous expenditure in connection with the most approved types of time saving devices with which our engine houses are equipped, and we find it necessary to keep steam up in these engines in order to save time. Against this we have the lamentable statistics of from one to half a dozen engine or hose companies standing idle while the firemen thaw out a fire hydrant which has been bound up by the frost. The value of all this time saving equipment is often nullified by the frozen hydrant; the delays sometimes extend into periods of time that are simply appalling. Members of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters deem that their losses are increased by millions of dellars each winter from the freezing of hydrants. I understand that in this city last winter there were nearly 2,000 such cases. The figures are from departmental records. Chicago and other large cities fare ao better.

With all our American ingenuity and our tremendous expenditures, apparently nothing has been done to overcome this evil. It threatens the very existence of the city, for who can say what the delay might cost in life and property? It is surprising that more attention is not paid to this matter. A delay is a delay, no matter what the cause; and the frozen hydrant seems to make more frouble than anything else.

New York, December 23.

## Russian's Bivouse Car.

From the London Times. A correspondent writes that the army authori-ties in Germany are considering the adoption of a transportable bivecac car, the invention of a Russian engineer. After the car, which is feadily hauled by a pair of horses, has arrived at its destination, two levers, terminating in anchors, are dropped onto the ground. These levers main-tain the rear wheels in position, while the front wheels are carried along by the horses until the ear is drawn out to a length of twenty-five meters. The car then consists of several compartments, each constituting a room with three windows, and a passage communicating with the main exit. The compartments are arranged in two stories, and a staircase connects the entrance with the upper floor. The whole structure con-stitutes a lengthy building, including in its two stories twelve compartments for soldiers, an officer's cabin, and a sergeant's office. Each of the compartments is provided with any necessary pieces of furniture (beds, tables, &c.), arranged so that each of them during the closing of the car, is folded up automatically. The writing desk, looking glass, wash stand, &c. At the rear end of the car an observatory tower is

#### ess telegraphy station. The Monterey Cypress

arranged which can be raised to a height of thirty

neters. This tower can also be used as a wire

From the Scientific American.

One of the most interesting and picturesquetrees in the world, as well as one of the most anient, is the Cupressus macrocarps, or Monterey cypress. Its native habitat is expremely re-stricted, for it is found in its wild state in only two spots in the whole wide world—on the edge of a grove of coniters stretching for a few miles between the Bay of Monterey and the Bay of Carmel (the latter of which bears a striking resemblance in outline and color to its prototype in the Holy Land) and in a similar spot near Pes cadero, a little town lying on the coast between Monterey and San Francisco. The Monterey grove consists of only a dozen or two cypresses of large size and most striking appearance while their boughs, gnarled and twisted, gro The noble trees are limited to the rocky, wind meroaching ocean on one hand and a pine forest on the other their future is exposed to great hazard. It is therefore gratifying to observe that a fair number of thrifty young cypresses are holding their own against the pines for a short are holding their distance inland.

## Origin of Name New Mexico.

From the Las Vegas Optic.

The country now called Mexico was not so called till 1810, when the revolt against Spain began. Up to independence the country was called New Spain and was divided into the agme number of provinces as Spain, each with a name of a prov-ince in Spain, with the prefix of "new," but New Mexico was not included in this division In charge of an expedition of exploration into what is now northern Durango and southern Chituahua, and discovered an indian village near where Santa Barbara now stands in which the houses were whitewashed and the people made and wore cotton cloth, raising the cotton in the neighborhood. He wrote an account of his dircovery to his brother in the city of Mexico, tell-ing him he had discovered "una nueva Mexico." a ew Mexico, another Mexico, meaning that he had found another town like the city of Mexico. and thereafter all this portion of northern New Spain was known as "Neuva Mexico," that is New , which name it has retained, though now much reduced in extent.

## Dog Team Beats Horse.

From the Daily Alaskan.

The sharp discussion of the Ali Alaska sweepstakes planned for April at Nome resulted in a
challenge by Coke Hill to race with his dog team against Hen Freymeyer on Dolly, a mare that has figured in Nome horse races. The race took place November 14 over a ten mile course. Dexter Creek and return. The dogs won by fifty seconds. The stake was \$1,000. The mare slipped and lost time. Another race is on and \$10,000 will change

#### hands on the result. Statue of Daniel Boone.

From the Columbia (Ho.) Stateman.

A bronze statue of Daniel Boone to be erected in the Court House yard will be about eight feet in height. It will represent the ploneer in the gard of the frontier, with buckskin raiment and an old coonskin cap, with his trusted old rifle in hand. on the slert for the manifold dangers of the wilder of Boone county stone.